

Remarks

Claims 1-13 remain pending. Claims 1, 7, and 13 are hereby amended. No new matter is being added.

Claim Rejections--Section 112

Claims 1-13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, for indefiniteness in relation to the term "necessarily". Accordingly, the independent claims 1, 7, and 13 are hereby amended to delete the term --necessarily-- from the claim language. Therefore, applicant respectfully submits that this rejection is now overcome.

Claim Rejections--Section 102

Claims 1-13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 as being anticipated by the Schmidt reference (US 6,195,793).

As stated on page 7 of the latest office action, the Examiner interpreted the previous claim language "without necessarily inlining the common call site" to also mean --necessarily inlining the common call site--.

The present amendment hereby deletes the term --necessarily--. Hence, the claim language now reads "without inlining the common call site...." Applicants respectfully submit that this eliminates the ambiguity of the previous claim language as pointed out by the Examiner in the latest office action. Applicants further respectfully submit that the amended claim limitation is neither disclosed by nor suggested by the cited references.

Therefore, applicants respectfully submit that this rejection is now overcome.

Claim 1

More particularly, claim 1, as amended, now recites follows.

1. A method of compiling a computer program with inline specialization, the method comprising:

given a call-graph, if multiple call-chains in the call-graph have a common call site, inlining the common call site in one or more of the call-chains, **without inlining the common call site into all of said multiple call-chains having the common call site.**

(Emphasis added.)

As shown above, amended claim 1 recites limitations pertaining to "inline specialization." As recited in amended claim 1, this inline specialization pertains to the capability to inline a common call site "in one or more of the call-chains, without inlining the common call site into all of said multiple call-chains having the common call site." (Emphasis added.)

As discussed in the specification, "We introduce the concept of inline specialization whereby a call site, that is common to more than one call chain, gets inlined in only some of the call chains. Thus the common call site gets inlined in a specialized manner." (Page 26, lines 3-5.)

Inline specialization may be understood, for example, using the illustration of FIG. 6 of the present application. For convenience of reference, FIG. 6 is reproduced below.

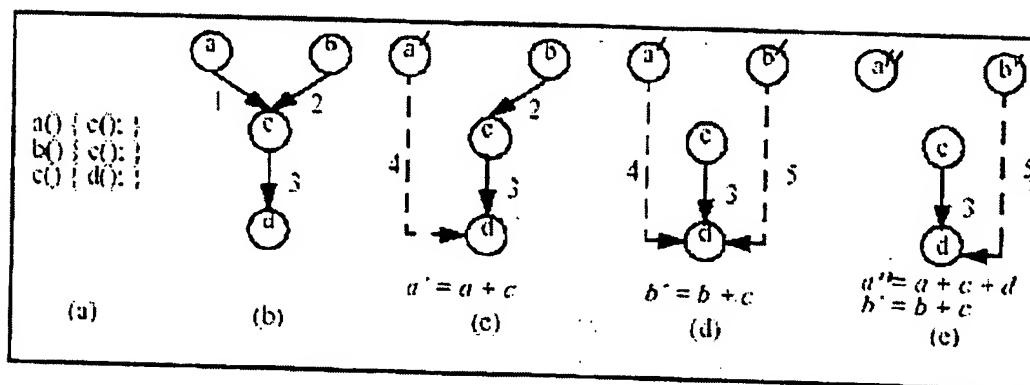


Figure 6

As shown in the call-graph in FIG. 6(b) above, the call site "c" is common to two call-chains (one being a-c-d and the other being b-c-d).

Conventionally, without inline specialization, call site c would be either inlined into both routines a and b by creating modified routines a' and b' as shown in FIG. 6(d), or call site c would not be inlined into either routines a or b.

On the other hand, with inline specialization enabled in accordance with the claimed invention, call site c may be inlined into routine a by creating routine a' without being inlined into routine b. This inline specialization (into routine a, but not into routine b) is shown in FIG. 6(C) above.

Claims Depending from Claim 1

Claims 2-6 depend from claim 1. As such, for at least the same reasons as discussed above in relation to claim 1, claims 2-6 are also patentably distinguished over Schmidt.

Claims 7-14

Amended claim 7 is an apparatus claim which is limited to means for inline specialization, similar to the limitations of claim 1. Hence, applicants respectfully submit that claim 7 is also patentably distinguished over Schmidt for at least the same reasons as discussed above in relation to claim 1.

Claims 8-14 depend from claim 7. As such, for at least the same reasons as discussed above in relation to claim 7, claims 8-14 are also patentably distinguished over the cited reference.

Claim 15

Amended claim 15 is a computer program product claim which is limited to a compiler including an inline specialization feature, similar to the limitations of claim 1. Hence, applicants respectfully submit that claim 15 is also patentably distinguished over Schmidt for at least the same reasons as discussed above in relation to claim 1.

Conclusion

For the above-discussed reasons, applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-15 are now patentably distinguished over the applied art. Favorable action is respectfully requested.

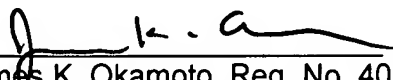
The Examiner is also invited to call the below-referenced attorney to discuss this case.

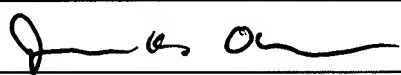
Respectfully Submitted,

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